

DANISH WEST INDIES NOW OURS

Payment of \$25,000,000 Gives Us Full Title to the Islands. During Spanish-American War We Lost Opportunity to Acquire Them For One-third of Present Price—Plans of Governing Them.



THE Danish West Indies are now owned by the United States. Ownership of the islands passed from Denmark to the United States when Secretary Lansing and Constantin Bruun, the Danish minister at Washington, formally exchanged the ratifications of the treaty conveying the islands to this government. The title passed with the exchange of ratifications, but the actual physical possession of the islands will not take place until the purchase price of \$25,000,000 is paid to Denmark.

The treaty provides for the appointment of an agent by Denmark to deliver and the appointment of another by the United States to receive the islands. The American agent has not been named, but it is expected that Franklin D. Roosevelt, the assistant secretary of the navy, will be designated.

Plans For Governing Islands. Plans for taking over the islands and for the establishment of American governmental control are being perfected by the administration. The bureau of insular affairs of the war department, which has handled matters relating to Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines and other American insular possessions, is now working out a tentative plan for the government of the islands. Two plans have been drafted. One proposes a civil form of government, with a civil governor, as was the case with Porto Rico, while the other calls for a military government, under control of a naval or military governor.

Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, has conferred with President Wilson, Secretaries Lansing and Baker and other administration officials regarding the taking over of the islands. It is believed that the policy will be to effect the transfer with as little disruption of the existing regime as possible for the present.

Approval by Denmark's parliament of the treaty by which the United States acquires the Danish West Indies opened the way for the prompt exchange of ratifications between the two governments and consummation of negotiations that have been in progress intermittently since the civil war.

The American naval strategists for years have regarded possession of this little archipelago lying fifty miles east of Porto Rico as absolutely necessary to prevent any European power from acquiring it and, moreover, to establish there a great naval base and coaling station for the United States fleet. Commercially the islands are regarded as of comparatively little value.

The United States ratified the treaty Sept. 9, the only question raised being the large purchase price.

Denmark Offered Us Islands. Some interesting details regarding our previous negotiations for the purchase of the Danish West Indies, which on two occasions proved abortive, were brought to light when the senate recently ratified the proposed treaty for their purchase at the cost of \$25,000,000.

At the time of our war with Spain a bill for the purchase at a cost of \$5,000,000 aroused so little interest that it was allowed to die in the senate. The Danish government first entered into a treaty with the United States providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies during the period when William H. Seward was secretary of state. The senate never voted upon this treaty, and owing to this fact the Danish government, when it took up the question anew in the first McKinley administration, did not feel that it

was dignified for it to open negotiations for the sale through diplomatic channels, but appointed a committee of seven of the leading citizens of Copenhagen with power to sell the islands to the United States. The Danish committee appointed Henry H. Rogers of the Standard Oil company and Charles R. Flint to act for it.

Mr. Flint advised the president that Mr. Rogers and himself were authorized to sell the Danish West Indies for \$5,000,000. President McKinley immediately replied that he would have a bill introduced in the senate authorizing him to make the purchase.

The bill was introduced the day following and received the unanimous recommendation of the committee on foreign relations, but Senator Elkins made objection, and inasmuch as it was deemed by President McKinley of great importance that all matters having any relation to the war with Spain should be passed upon unanimously the bill was not pressed.

High Price Paid. Of the group of about fifty islands comprising the Danish West Indies only three are big enough to have a name on any except hydrographic charts and local maps, and a traveler can walk around St. Croix, the largest, in nine hours. The importance of the group, however, is reflected in the price our government proposed to pay for them, says the National Geographic Magazine. We gave less than 2



Above, a view of St. Thomas; Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, who will probably take over islands for United States.

cents an acre for Alaska, less than 2 cents an acre for California, Nevada, Colorado and Utah, less than 14 cents an acre for Florida and under 27 cents an acre for the Philippines. Even for the canal zone we paid but \$35.83 per acre. Yet at \$25,000,000 for the group we offered Denmark more than \$250 per acre for her holdings.

The importance of the island of St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, arises from the fact that the harbor on the south side of the island, on whose borders the town of Charlotte Amalie is located, is one of the finest in all tropical America.

Terms of the Treaty. Under the terms of the treaty Denmark sells to the United States the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, together with adjacent islands and rocks, and including "the right of property in all public, government or crown lands, public buildings, wharves, ports, harbors, fortifications, barracks, public funds, rights, franchises and privileges, and all other public property of every kind or description now belonging to Denmark, together with all the appurtenances thereto."

Denmark guarantees cession of the islands to be free and unincumbered, except for certain franchises and concessions, which the United States agrees to maintain. Provision also is made for protection of the property of the Danish national church, and exemptions from the transfer include arms and military stores and "movables, especially silver plate and pictures in the government buildings."

Authorities have disagreed as to the area of the Danish West Indies. Even as to the three main islands—St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix—there is no agreement on the question of area. In order to get a definite statement as to their size planimeter measurements of them were made on hydrographic charts in the offices of the National Geographic society in Washington, and they show that St. Thomas is 28.25 square miles in area, St. Croix 84.25 square miles and St. John 19.97 square miles in area, making a total of 132.47 square miles for the three islands.

HER HUSBAND'S CLOSET.

And What the Grateful Wife Said and Did When She Saw It.

There was once a husband who dreamed of having a closet all his own. He dreamed of a place where he could go at night and find things just the same as they were in the morning. He dreamed of a place in which he did not occupy with his timid little two suits a remote hook, while all the rest of the circumambient space was filled with—well, what every husband knows. He dreamed, and he said, "I will take advantage of my wife's absence and hire a carpenter and a locksmith and fix that closet up to suit myself and put on it an impregnable lock and key, and then I shall laugh softly and say, 'At last the great day has come!'"

And he did it.

And when that night his wife came home and saw the work that he had done, she said:

"Where is that key?"

And the husband, trembling—for he was no Bluebeard—produced it forthwith. And when she saw the ample space within she fell on his neck and said:

"My darling, the four new frocks I have bought this day, and the crepe de chine party wrap, and the fur lined Mother Hubbard, and the others—your thoughtfulness has provided for."

And the man went out in the garage and hanged his dress suit there—as he had been wont to do—and sighed to himself, saying, "Good night!"—Life.

Find the Joys.

Many think themselves to be truly God fearing when they call this world a valley of tears. But I believe they would be more so if they called it a happy valley. God is more pleased with those who think everything right in the world than with those who think nothing right. With so many thousand joys is it not black ingratitude to call the world a place of sorrow and torment?—Richter.

*WHY NOT BE CHEERFUL?

It Will Help You to Increase Your Mental and Physical Power.

Good cheer is a great lubricant. It oils all of life's machinery.

Good cheer is a great producer. It adds wonderfully to one's active ability and increases mental and physical power. It makes hosts of friends and helps us to be interesting and agreeable.

Good cheer will attract more customers, sell more goods, do more business, with less wear and tear than almost any other quality.

Optimism is the greatest business getter, biggest trader, truest achiever, in the world.

Pessimism has never done anything but tear down and destroy what optimism has built up.

In the business office, in society, in politics, in workshops, everywhere, the favorite is always the cheerful fellow with the bright smile and bright thoughts.

Good natured, cheerful ones do not waste their vital energies as rapidly as the grumblers or the too sober, too sour ones do. They work and live with much less friction.

Good cheer is a simple habit. It is one of the best in all the list.—Christian Herald.

Good Hearted Cabbage.

A well known expert in cooking encountered trouble in a certain community the other afternoon when she prepared to lecture at the Mothers' club. Her subject was "How to Cook." She began by telling how much a man appreciates good cooking, and then she proposed to give various recipes.

Among the first was one for coleslaw. "To have this best," began the lecturer, "take a good hearted cabbage and—"

At this point a young matron interrupted. She was eager to get all the information possible. "Tell me, please," she spoke up, "how is one to know the disposition of a cabbage?"

Valuable Farming Facts

USE OF KEROSENE IN THE POULTRY HOUSE

Cleanliness and the periodical use of a good disinfectant are the strongest bulwarks against disease and vermin, and they should be given a conspicuous place in the routine of every well regulated poultry farm, writes H. A. Roberts in the Philadelphia Ledger.

For the destruction of mites which hide and breed in the cracks and crevices of poultry houses kerosene is valuable. Even so, its superiority over other insecticides lies in its flowing and penetrating qualities. Being a thin oil, it will reach the most remote cracks better than a heavier liquid. At the same time, owing to this extremely volatile, penetrating characteristic, the action or effectiveness of kerosene is of short duration. Because it is easily evaporated, it is short lived. Consequently numerous applications are required. Furthermore, it should be remembered that the odor or fumes of kerosene are not sufficient to destroy parasites. Mites and their larvae must come in actual contact with the oil.

For that reason painting the perches with a brush is a more effective method than spraying. And a good plan is to add a couple of ounces of crude carbolic acid to each quart of kerosene.

A kerosene emulsion may be made as follows: Shake a half pound of common soap into two quarts of water and boil the mixture until the soap is thoroughly dissolved, remove it a safe distance from the fire and, while it is still hot, stir in two gallons of kerosene. This will make a thick, creamy emulsion or stock mixture. When it is to be used for spraying mix one part



About this season of the year some of the older hens will begin to get broody. Those wishing an early hatch of chicks should provide warm and comfortable quarters for the hen. A nest something like the one here pictured will suit Biddy when she goes on the job.

of the emulsion to ten parts of water. As a disinfectant, add a pint of crude carbolic acid to this one-to-ten solution, stirring it until it is thoroughly mixed. If the oil and water separate it is because the soap is not sufficiently caustic. It is important that crude carbolic, not the refined product, be used, for the crude acid, a dark brown, dirty looking liquid, contains tar oil, which is to be desired.

Crude oil (petroleum) is an excellent germ and vermin destroyer. It is comparatively cheap and easy to apply.

Pulverized, air slaked lime is splendid for sprinkling on the dropping boards and floors of houses, in nest boxes and other places where vermin are likely to take refuge, but prove objectionable by setting up an inflammation in the eyes and throats of the fowls. The dust has an irritating effect on the mucous membrane. It must be employed judiciously and never used until the lime is thoroughly air slaked. It is therefore advisable to slake the lime and leave it exposed to the air for a few weeks before being used.

A solution of permanganate of potash makes a satisfactory cleanser and disinfectant for the washing out of drinking vessels and feed troughs and for scrubbing the interiors of incubators. Placed in the drinking water, it is a mild disinfectant and tends to prevent the spread of contagion.

HINTS FOR FARMERS.

On land that has been in an early maturing cultivated crop, such as potatoes, peas, sweet corn or soy beans, no other preparation for alfalfa will be needed than necessary harrowings.

In moist climates, such as the eastern United States, it is not easy to succeed with alfalfa except where the soil conditions are favorable. Marked success, however, has been obtained on certain soils in the south where the annual rainfall exceeds fifty inches.

Flint and flour varieties of corn frequently produce heavier yields than dent varieties under droughty conditions. They are unpoplar, however, on account of the many small ears and the difficulty of husking. When harvested by animals this difficulty is overcome.—United States Department of Agriculture.

FEEDING WORK HORSES.

When Fed Judiciously Alfalfa Hay Produces Good Results.

In a bulletin published some time ago by the Nebraska station the experience of a number of stockmen was given in the feeding of alfalfa hay to horses, says the Iowa Homestead. Nearly all of the contributors to this bulletin praised alfalfa hay highly, and one breeder reported a gain of four pounds a day per head on 150 horses for two months. These horses consumed twenty-one pounds of coarsely ground corn and fourteen pounds of alfalfa hay daily. While this is exceedingly heavy feeding, at the same time the market calls for horses in high flesh, and it is doubtful if any



The farmer with a few good mares can earn a little easy money by raising two or three colts. Care should be taken that only pure bred sires are used. It is a waste of time and money to breed scrubs. The stallion pictured here is a pure bred Percheron.

other ration could be used with such satisfactory results in the making of such rapid gains as those referred to.

It is pointed out by the Nebraska station, because of its palatability, horses are liable to eat too much alfalfa if they are permitted to have free access to it. One pound of alfalfa hay and one and one-fourth pounds of grain per day for each hundred pounds of a horse's weight were found to make a good ration for a working horse. This would mean that an animal weighing 1,200 pounds would require twelve pounds of hay daily and fifteen pounds of grain.

It is a well known fact that horses like alfalfa stems, and for that reason the refuse from cattle racks may be utilized by feeding it to horses. First and second cuttings are more apt to be free of mold and dust than later cuttings, and it is therefore desirable to feed horses from that part of the supply.

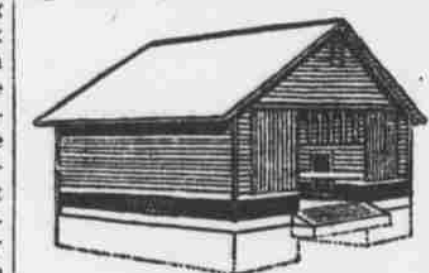
The practice of wetting alfalfa is condemned by the Nebraska station, and it is furthermore recommended that if alfalfa is used at all it should be used regularly. Sudden changes from this form of roughage to other forms is apt to derange the digestive system.

The principal precaution that should be taken in the use of alfalfa for horses is to avoid allowing animals to gorge themselves.

It should be remembered that alfalfa hay is a flesh former rather than a fat forming food, and it is practically of the same composition as wheat bran and is considered to be of equal value with that product in the horse ration. In conjunction with corn it makes almost a perfectly balanced ration.

Ratproof Crib.

The experts of the department of agriculture's division of farm engineering have devised a mighty good ratproof corncrib that will interest the man who has a big corn crop and is bothered by an army of rats. It is a double crib with a driveway through the center, each of the cribs being thirty-two feet long by eight feet wide and holding about 1,000 bushels each. The



cribs can be made much longer if the extra space is needed. There is a driveway twelve feet wide between the cribs, though this might be less. The whole structure has a concrete foundation and is covered with the ordinary roof. The concrete floor gives the rats no place to hide, and it is ratproofed along the walls to the eaves by means of wire netting that effectively prevents the rats climbing the walls and getting at the corn.

Grain In Proportion to Milk.

Professor Eckles of the Missouri experiment station has put forth the following as his judgment in feeding grain while on pasture:

For Jersey cow producing 20 pounds of milk daily, 3 pounds grain; 25 pounds of milk daily, 4 pounds grain; 30 pounds of milk daily, 5 1/2 pounds grain; 35 pounds of milk daily, 7 pounds grain; 40 pounds of milk daily, 8 pounds grain.

For Holstein cow producing 25 pounds milk daily, 3 pounds grain; 30 pounds milk daily, 4 pounds grain; 35 pounds milk daily, 5 1/2 pounds grain; 40 pounds milk daily, 7 pounds grain; 50 pounds milk daily, 9 pounds grain.

Keep the sows and pigs away from fattening hogs and give them the feed that produce flesh and bone rather than fat. Shorts are more economical feed for sows and growing pigs than corn.

In the Sport Arena

By SPARK PLUG

Olin, New Mat Wonder.

The sporting world was treated to a big surprise recently when Joe Stecher, the Nebraska wrestling whirlwind, lost to John L. Olin, the Finn, in Springfield, Mass. The champion had figured that Olin would be an easy mark, but met with the biggest surprise of his young life. Olin has come to the front with a rush, and his decision over Stecher has caused a veritable sensation in wrestling circles in the west, where Stecher was considered unbeatable.

In the Springfield match Olin resisted Stecher's scissors hold for more than twenty minutes one time and for fourteen another. Stecher had the scissors hold, but he could not pin Olin, the giant Finn from Worcester, to the mat.

This is how Olin got the decision over Stecher: After wrestling more than two hours the men rolled off a low platform to the floor. Then Stecher struck Olin in the face. Olin grabbed Stecher around the wrists and threw him over some chairs. Then Olin walked back on the mat to await the return of Stecher. The western wrestler looked at Olin and, without a word, turned away and walked to his dressing room. Referee Jim Barnes awarded the victory to Olin.

Olin has been in this country about three years and a half. During this time he has wrestled but few times,

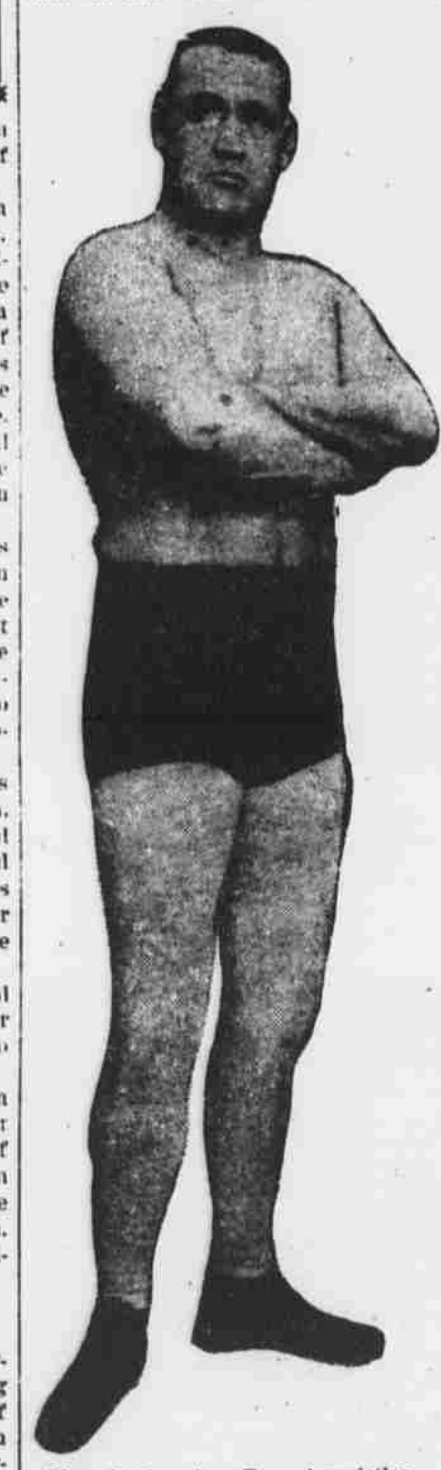


Photo by American Press Association.

John Olin, Who Won From Stecher Recently.

owing to the fact that other mat artists did not care for his game. He finished second in the 1912 Olympic wrestling contests held in Stockholm, Sweden. Olin is about thirty years old and is five feet ten and a half inches in height and tips the beam around 205 pounds. Hjalmer Lundin, the Swedish champion, who is training the new mat wonder, says Olin will tour the country, meeting all comers, during the next few months and later give Stecher a chance to regain his lost title.

Last winter Alex Aberg, the Greco-Roman champion, essayed to throw Olin in jig time, but failed.

Knabe Released by Chicago.

Otto Knabe, who finished the season with the Chicago Cubs, has been given his unconditional release by the Weegman aggregation. Knabe and Charley Doolin are in the same fix. Doolin was sent to the Rochester club of the International league by the Giants, and at the end of the season he was given his unconditional release. These two players are still of value and know enough baseball not to be idle very long.

Samoa Has Ball League.

At Pago Pago, American Samoa, a baseball league of American Samoa, made up of four teams representing the United States naval station, the U. S. S. Fortuna, Tutuila and the Fita-fita (the native guard), was formed recently and a playing schedule of thirty games adopted.

Pollard Runs Tailor Shop.

Fred Pollard, the negro football player and all around track athlete of Brown university, is working his way through college. He runs a little tailor shop in Providence, and when not busy with his studies or athletic work he keeps well occupied pressing suits for the students.